Scheme for production of Soft Drinks

2883. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for production of soft drinks in the country by unemployed persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of indigenous and foreign companies producing soft drinks in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Soft Drinks are normally understood as Sweetened Aerated water. There are 650 indigenous companies licensed under Fruit Products Order as on 1.1.1994 for producing Sweetened Aerated Water. No foreign company is producing soft drinks in India. However, M/s. Pepsi Foods Ltd. and M/s. Britco Foods Co. Pvt. Ltd. are manufacturing soft drink concentrate.

Enquiry against bottling of Coca Cola

2884. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to news-item appearing in 'Jansatta' dated 24th May, 1994 under the caption "Kya alcohol milate hein Coca-Coal Mein."

(b) whether the basic concentrate required for bottling of Coca Cola is being sent by America clandestinely;

(c) whether Asia's biggest Consumer Protection Institute 'Consumer Association of Penage' and Consumer Unity and Trust Society of Calcutta have demanded an enquiry into this matter; and

(d) the action being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the ingredients of the basic concentrate required for bottling of Coca-Cola are being imported as per the conditions of approval.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योगों की विकास दर

2885. श्री राम जेठमलानी: क्या खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गत कुछ वर्षों से खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योगों विशेषकर फलों और सब्जियों के प्रसंस्करण उद्योगों की विकास दर कम हो रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वर्ष 1990-91 में इसकी वार्षिक विकास दर क्या थी और वर्ष 1993-94 में यह विकास दर क्या होने की संभावना है;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि देश में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण की स्थापित क्षमता का पूर्ण उपयोग भी नहीं हो रहा है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो वर्ष 1993-94 में इस संबंध में कुल स्थापित क्षमता कितनी थी;

(ङ) स्थापित क्षमता के पूर्ण उपयोग के लिए अनुमानित कुल कितनी फल और सब्जियों की आवश्यकता है;

(च) वर्ष 1993-94 के दौरान कुल कितनी क्षमता का उपयोग हो पाया है; और

(छ) स्थापित क्षमता के कम उपयोग के क्या कारण हैं?

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री तरूण गोगोई): (क) और (ख) फल और सब्जी उत्पादों के मामले में उत्पादन की वृद्धि दर 1990-91 में 8.33% वर्ष 1991-92 में 38.46% वर्ष

1992-93 में 30.28% और वर्ष 1993-94 में 23.66% थी।

(ग) और (घ) जी हां। फल और सब्जी प्रसंस्करण उद्योग के लिए वर्ष 1993-94 में कुल स्थापित क्षमता 12.60 लाख टन होने का अनुमान है।

(ङ) और (च) स्थापित क्षमता के पूर्ण उपयोग के लिए फल और सब्जी की अनुमानित मात्रा 25.20 लाख टन है। फल और सब्जी का उपयोग करीब 11.80 लाख टन है।

(छ) स्थापित क्षमता के कम उपयोग का मुख्य कारण फल और सब्जियों की मौसमी उपलब्धता, प्रसंस्कृत फलों और सब्जी उत्पादनों के लिए घरेलू मांग की कमी और पैकेजिंग की ऊंची लागत है।

Fruit pulp in beverages

2886. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that lesser quantities of fruit pulp is being used in beverage which are produced under licence;

(b) whether Government have made any study of the surplus fruit available in the country;

(c) how does Government propose to increase the utilisation of fruit and fruit pulp in the country;

(d) whether Government are aware that a large number of fruit pulp producing units are working under-capacity; and

(e) what steps are being proposed to increase use of fruit in beverages and other processed food items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No Specific study has been made in this regard.

(c) to (e) The capacity utilisation of fruit and fruit pulp processing unit which is normally assessed on the basis of 300 working days in a year, depends upon the availability of raw-materials. Unless the equipment installed is capable of handling and pulping different types of fruits that are available in different seasons, the capacity utilisation is expected to be low. With a view to encourage processing of more of fruits, the Government have declared fruits and vegetable processing industry as a high priority area and have allowed automatic approval for technology agreements, foreign equity investments, and have provided fiscal reliefs on capital goods for this industry. To encourage utilisation of fruits and pulps., the Government have provided excise duty exemption on all fruit and vegetable products including those of pulps and fruit pulp beverages. The Government is also implementing a number of plan schemes for promoting processing of fruits and vegetables.

Production of traditional non-carbonated drinks

2887. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any effort to encourage the production of traditional, non-carbonated drinks;

(b) if so, details of encouragement given to the producers of traditional Indian beverages;

(c) whether any subsidy is available for such producers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Office of the Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries, through its field institutes encourages the development of agro-based food